**Fodder shortage in Orissa**

1714. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of acute shortage of fodder due to serious drought situation in Orissa;

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to strengthen fodder bank and seed production in the State;

(c) whether any amount has been released to that State in this regard during 2002-2003; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) There is no report from the State on acute shortage of fodder due to drought in Orissa. However, there is a deficit in the availablity of fodder in many drought hit States.

The Government of India provides funds for Establishment of Fodder Bank under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme—"Assistance to States for Feed and Fodder Development" on the basis of the proposals received from the State Governments. However, no proposal from Orissa to release funds under the scheme has been received during 2002-2003.

**NDDB's joint ventures with State Dairy Federations**

1715. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether if is a fact that the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) has decided to set up joint ventures with State Dairy Federations to market milk; and

(b) if so, the details of such joint ventures proposed to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) A wholly owned Company of NDDB, through its subsidiary Mother Dairy Foods Ltd. has decided to enter into Joint Ventures with State Cooperative Dairy Federations to market their milk and milk products.